

SPONSOR'S
VIEW:

Rep. Anita Hill said she could not understand why the Governor would veto the bill. It did not grant any special privilege to this district by allowing it to divide into two or more districts, she said, because the procedure for such a division is already provided for in Chapter 53 of the Water Code.

NOTES:

The House Study Group analysis of HB 2377 appeared in the May 13 Daily Floor Report.

Williamson County Court at Law jurisdiction
(HB 2419 by Riley)

DIGEST:

This bill would have raised from \$10,000 to \$50,000 the maximum amount in controversy over which the county court at law in Williamson County would have jurisdiction. It would also have expanded the court's jurisdiction to include certain family-related suits.

GOVERNOR'S
REASONS
FOR VETO:

The Governor said the county commissioners court, the county judge, and the county-court-at-law judge in Williamson County all opposed this bill as unnecessary and "extremely costly to the taxpayers...."

SPONSOR'S
VIEW:

Rep. Riley said "there wasn't any reason in the world" for the Governor to veto this bill, and noted that most other counties were seeking to expand county-court-at-law jurisdiction. Rep. Riley said that Williamson County officials will probably realize that he was right and "support it next time."

Denton County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1
(HB 2439 by Campbell)

DIGEST:

HB 2439 would have validated the creation of the Denton County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1. The district could have been divided into two or more new districts if it had no outstanding bond debt and was not levying a property tax at the time it was divided. The district could have annexed any territory if the owner petitioned for annexation. Qualifications and compensation would have been set for certain district officials. The district would have been granted the authority to act as a road utility district.

GOVERNOR'S
REASONS
FOR VETO:

The Governor said the bill granted special and unusual powers to the Denton County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1, separating it from other applicants, by authorizing the district to divide into two or more districts prior to issuing bonds and levying a property tax. He noted that a utility district can be created either by the Water Commission through a hearings process or by the Legislature through the legislative process. In either case, standard procedures are applied to all applicants with no special privilege given to any applicant. He said these procedures were necessary "to insure a sound legal and financial policy for all parties concerned, including the state." He objected to HB 2439 because it would have granted the Denton County district a privilege not available to other districts.

SPONSOR'S
VIEW:

Rep. Campbell's office said that this was a local bill that would not have been brought to the Governor's attention except that it affected a development owned by H. R. "Bum" Bright. For further comments, see the sponsor's view of a related bill, HB 2497, below.

Creating Colden Road Utility District
(HB 2497 by Campbell)

DIGEST: The bill would have created in Denton County a road utility district (RUD) empowered to undertake road projects and issue bonds.

GOVERNOR'S
REASONS
FOR VETO:

The Governor said the purpose of HB 2497 could be accomplished without legislation, since the State Highways and Public Transportation Commission has the authority to approve the creation of road utility districts.

SPONSOR'S
VIEW:

Rep. Campbell said his bill had been part of a legislative package intended to speed development of a tract of land near State Highway 121 northeast of Fort Worth. RUDs can be created either by statute or through the Highway Department, but affected landowners (notably H.R. "Bum" Bright) asked Campbell to try the legislative route before they attempted a tussle with the Highway Department. Other RUD bills went through the Legislature this session, Campbell said, and the